REMARKS

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is requested in order to delete the multiple dependent claims and avoid paying the multiple dependent claims fee.

Early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC

Bv 2

Michael R. Slobasky

Reg. No. 26,421

400 Seventh Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004-2201 (202) 638-6666

Atty. Docket: P70050US0 Date: August 31, 2004

MRS/cmf